

## Document Citation

|               |   |
|---------------|---|
| Title         | <b>Salam cinema</b>                     |
| Author(s)     |   |
| Source        | <i>MK2 Productions</i>                  |
| Date          |   |
| Type          | press kit                               |
| Language      | French<br>English                       |
| Pagination    |   |
| No. of Pages  | 5                                       |
| Subjects      |   |
| Film Subjects | Salaam cinema, Makhmalbaf, Mohsen, 1995 |

## Mahmoud Kalari, directeur de la photo

---

Né en 1951 à Téhéran.  
Après ses études universitaires, il s'installe aux USA (New York) pour entrer dans le monde de la photo. Dès 1980, il est engagé par l'agence Sygma. Comme photo-journaliste, il traverse plusieurs pays pour faire des reportages qui seront publiés dans différents magazines. Il expose ses photos individuellement ou collectivement en Allemagne, France, Hollande, USA, Japon... De retour en Iran, il devient chef-opérateur dès 1984, puis directeur de la photo de plusieurs films dont :

**La route froide** J. Jozani  
**Le plomb** M. Kimiaï  
**Le temps de l'amour** M. Makhmalbaf  
**Salam cinéma** M. Makhmalbaf  
**Le rêve de Tahereh** film en cours de tournage de A. Kiarostami

---

*Salam Cinéma*

# Salam Cinéma

a film by Mohsen MAKHMALBAF

---

screenplay, editing  
and direction  
director of photography  
sound  
music  
assistants to the director

photographer  
executive producer  
laboratory  
producer

cast

Mohsen Makhmalbaf  
Mahmoud Kalari  
Nezam Kiyai  
Shahrdad Rohani  
Moharam Zinalzadeh,  
Bahram Azimpour  
Djamshid Bayrami  
A. Lavasani  
Studio Filmsaz  
Abbas Randjbar,  
Green Film House  
Azadeh Zangeneh,  
Maryam Keyhan,  
Feyzolah Ghashghai,  
Shaghayegh Djodat

Iran • running time : 75 minutes • 1995



## Screenplay

a

well-known Iranian director, Mohsen Makhmalbaf, plans to make a film for the celebration of the **100th anniversary** of cinema.

He placed an advertisement in a newspaper in order **to hire** one hundred actors. He has prepared 1000 application forms, but 5000 people show up. The result is **a riot** in which the applicants are trampled on and wounded.

In *Salam Cinema*, Mohsen Makhmalbaf **auditions** dozens of men and women in front of the camera; their **statements**, which are by turns funny and touching, reveal the reality of life in Iran.

Thus, the director enables to see and understand those intellectuals, students, children, and above all the women, who can not normally be **heard or seen**.

*Salam Cinema* shows, once again, that cinema is of **vital** importance in countries such as Iran.



*Salam Cinema*

*Salam Cinema*

discovered cinema  
at the age of 24,  
and it changed  
my vision of the world :  
cinema cultivates man.»



MOHSEN MAKHMALBAF

## Extract of an interview of Mohsen Makhmalbaf by Serge Daney

in Teheran, february 90, in  
*Libération*, 3rd-4th march 1990.

**Mohsen Makhmalbaf  
is representative of the  
Iranian intellectuals  
contemporary of the  
Islamic revolution and  
its evolution...**

**He is said to be on the  
verge of marginalisation.  
Energetic and self taught  
(he is also a writer),  
he tends to think that  
religion is a personal  
and intimate thing, and,  
he has lost hope in the  
Iranian culture, even  
though revolutionized.  
«Fifty revolutions will  
not change the Iranian  
culture», he says.  
«It is a sever and cruel  
culture : parents punish  
their children, the state  
reprimands prisoners,  
and women do not have  
a fundamental role  
in society...».**

## Biography

Mohsen Makhmalbaf was born on May, the 29th, 1957 in a poor quarter in the south of Teheran. Most of his films are set in this quarter which became a source of inspiration to him. Shortly after he was born, his father abandoned him. His mother was compelled to work, and he was raised by his grandmother, a very religious woman. At the age of 15, he has to provide for his family and left school. Simultaneously, he became involved in politics under the influence of his father-in-law. In 1974, he was arrested in an assault on a police precinct and was imprisoned for several years.

He was released during the Islamic revolution of 1979. He gave up politics and published a few short stories, plays, and a novel between 1980 and 1982. Then, he turned to cinema and directed his first film, *Nasoo's repentance*, in 1982. He admitted that at this time he had never set foot in the cinema yet. However, today, Mohsen Makhmalbaf is one of the most popular film makers and writers of this country.

## Cinematography

---

1984, Mohsen Makhmalbaf directed *Boycott* and watched hundreds of films in the Iranian Film Archives. 1987, he directed *The Peddler* which consisted of three sketches about social misfits (his favorite subject in his early films). The film revealed the influences of the neo-realists, Hitchcock and Fellini on this self-taught director. 1988, *The Cyclist* was hailed as a success both by the public and the press. 1989, *Marriage of the blessed* tells the story of a reporter/photographer who returns from the Iran/Iraq war and has difficulty in reintegrating the society. 1990 and 1991, his two films *Time of love* and *Nights of Zayanderoud* were censored. The authorities accused him of betraying the religious ideas that had marked his earlier films.

1991, he made *Once upon a time, cinema*, a very stylish comedy about the history of Iranian cinema. 1992, *The actor*, a comedy about the sufferings of an actor torn between his artistic ambitions and his married life. On account of his notoriety, Mohsen Makhmalbaf became the hero of a news item and then of *Close up*, a film directed by Abbas Kiarostami. An unemployed film buff passes himself off as Mohsen Makhmalbaf and pretends to be making a film. He manages to fool a middle-class family living in the north of Teheran. Tributes to Mohsen Makhmalbaf were organized by Utopia Cinema in Paris and La Rochelle Film Festival in 1992 and 1993. Mohsen Makhmalbaf was a member of the jury in Locarno Film Festival in 1994.

MAMAD HAGHIGHAT

---

*Salam Cinema*

## Filmography

---

- 1982 **NASOOH'S REPENTANCE**  
1983 **TWO SIGHTLESS EYES**  
1984 **ESTEGHASSE**  
1984 **BOYCOTT**  
1986 **THE PEDDLER**  
1988 **THE CYCLIST**  
*"Golden R," first prize of the 2nd Rimini Cinema International Film Festival, 1989*  
*"East-West Centre" prize of the 11th Hawaii International Film Festival, 1991*  
1989 **MARRIAGE OF THE BLESSED**  
1990 **TIME OF LOVE**  
1990 **NIGHTS OF ZAYANDEROUD**  
1991 **ONCE UPON A TIME, CINEMA**  
*Jury's special prize and FIPRESCI's Award at the 28th Karlovy Vary International Film Festival, 1992*  
*"Golden Charydbis", best film of the Taormina International Film Festival, 1992*  
1992 **THE ACTOR**  
1992 **PIECES OF IMAGES OF THE GHADJAR'S PERIOD (S.F.)**  
1993 **THE STONE AND THE GLASS (S.F.)**  
1994 **SALAM CINEMA**

---

*Salam Cinema*

# Mahmoud Kalari, director of photography

---

Born in 1951, Teheran.  
After his studies at the University, he settles in USA (New York) as a photograph. In 1980, he works for Sygma agency as a photo-journalist, he crossed many countries doing subjects wich will be published in differents magazins.

He exposes photographs individually or in group in France, Germany, Holland, USA, Japan...

Back to Iran, he becomes a light director since 1984, then photography director on several movies :

**The cold road** *J. Jozani*

**The lead** *M. Kimiaï*

**Time of love**

*M. Makhmalbaf*

**Salam cinema**

*M. Makhmalbaf*

**Tahereh's dream**

*movie about to be done by  
Abbas Kiarostami*

---

*Salam Cinema*